

WATER SUPPLY TUBE AND RISER ASSEMBLY AND RELATED METHOD

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A process for installing a plastic connector bushing in a plastic water supply tube includes a) cutting a hole of predetermined diameter in the water supply tube; b) locating the connector bushing in the hole, the connector bushing having an upper radial flange, and wherein a metal washer is interposed between an underside of the radial flange and an area of the water supply tube surrounding the hole; and c) applying energy to the metal washer sufficient to cause melting of respective facing surface portions of the radial flange and water supply tube to thereby form a bonded joint between the connector bushing and the water supply tube. A corresponding water supply tube or riser assembly includes an irrigation tube for supplying water to at least one supply line or riser assembly, the irrigation tube having at least one hole formed therein with a connector bushing inserted within the hole. The connector bushing has a radial flange bonded to a surface of the irrigation tube surrounding the hole, with a metal washer interposed between the radial flange and the surface. A tubular connector is inserted within the connector bushing, and a supply line or riser has one end inserted within the tubular connector.